The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and official interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Samuel Gompers said:

The luxuries of the past have become the necessities of today, and all mankind agrees that in order that the workers may be counted upon to continue their labor, the necessities of life must be assured them.

WHOLE NO. 2067 — WILLIAM GREEN, *President* — WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer* — VOL. 40, NO. 47

Irving Brown Picked on ICFTU Mission to Visit North Africa

Brussels, Belgium—Irving Brown, AFL representative in Europe, was chosen a member of the 4-man delegation of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions sent on an immediate mission to North Africa by the ICFTU executive board.

An American negro trade unionist will be appointed to a second ICFTU mission to West and Central Africa in December.

The missions are to make surveys similar to that made by the recent Asia mission among free trade unions of the Far East.

Besides Mr. Brown, the mission now en route through Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Libya includes M. Richard Bringolf, Swiss Trade Union Federation; a representative of the French Force Ouvriere, and a member of the ICFTU headquarters staff.

In addition to the American negro trade unionist, the second mission to West and Central Africa will include one representative each from the British, Belgian and French organizations; Marcus Grant, African member of the ICFTU executive board; one representative of the International Transportworkers Federation.

After preliminary investigations it will participate in a regional trade union conference in Dsaka in February and stay on for some time to continue its survey.

SPAIN—On the question of the recognition of Franco Spain, the board is recommending affiliated national centers continue pressure on their governments in order to prevent the admission of Spain in any of the specialized agencies of the United Nations and the sending of ambassadors to that country.

GREECE—It was also agreed to send representatives again to Greece to maintain contact after the organization effected at the recent Congress of the Greek Confederation of Labor, this task will be assigned to Messrs. Knight, Kupers and Brown and the opportunity may also be taken of visiting Turkey in order to investigate the possibilities of free trade union developments in that country.

RESOLUTIONS. Resolutions were unanimously adopted on the following subjects: denouncing the double aggression of communist China against Korea and Tibet, protesting against the closing down of free trade unions in Lima and other anti-labor acts of the Peruvian dictatorship, and warning affiliated bodies of the need for continued vigilance against the attempts of communists to draw them into spurious "peace" actions and into the abortive Sheffield Congress.

NEXT WORLD CONGRESS.—It was agreed to hold the next World Congress of the ICFTU in Milan in July 4, 1951, and the succeeding week. The next meeting of the executive board will take place also in Milan on the 2 preceding days.

FIGHT POLIO

New York—Members of Local 791 AFL International Longshoremen's Association raised $1,019 in a one-day drive for the Greater New York Committee of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Washington—Local 632, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Charles J. Bell, president, presented a portable iron lung to Prince Georges General Hospital, Cheverly, Md.

New York.—Bills for polio patients care alone received more than $94,000,000 in March of Dime funds thier 1938, almost two-thirds of the total being spent in 1948, 1949 and 1950—worst 3-year polio period on record. The annual March of Dimes drive will be held Jan. 15-31, 1951.

ILO Plans Korean Aid

Brussels, Belgium.—Director-General David A. Morse of the International Labor Organization (standing) discusses with AFL International Representative George P. Delaney, C. S. workers' delegate to the governing body of the ILO, plans for assistance in the rehabilitation of Korea during the governing body meeting in November.

Liberia Makes Gains Under 'Point Four'

Oxford, Pa.—Recent advances in the development of Liberia with aid from the United States were cited in support of President Truman's Point 4 program as a plan for progress on Africa at Lincoln University.

Oscar Mezer, chief of the United States mission to Liberia, in the small independent African republic, told the audience that Liberia is a striking illustration of what can be done with technical assistance toward the development of economic and human resources.

"Liberians have every right to expect the United States to do the job, but have rapidly taken over the responsibility," he said.

Henry Duncan, Liberia's Secretary of Public Works and Utilities, recalled how freed slaves from America had founded the first African republic in 1847.

"We realize fully that if we fail, not only we ourselves will have failed, but we will have turned back the clock of destiny for all negro people," he said.

The AFL 69th convention at Houston last September endorsed a resolution introduced by A. Philip Randolph, president Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, calling for application of the Point Four program to Africa.

The AFL pledged its wholehearted efforts to further democratic ideals on the African continent.

"Point 4 program accord," the convention said, "with the conviction that if the continent of Africa is to be a bastion of freedom and a source of strength to strengthen international democracy in its struggle for supremacy over totalitarianism every aid and assistance must be rendered to hasten the day of complete freedom and national independence for the peoples of Africa."

ICFTU Asia Chief Arrives in Korea

Seoul, Korea.—Dhyan Mungat Singh, Indian representative of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) arrived in Pusan, temporary capital in Korea with the object of resuming relations with the Korean trade unions.

The Korean unions were represented at the ICFTU conference in London but the ICFTU executive board in Brussels but their relations had been interrupted by war.

Mr. Singh will try to ascertain the extent and form of assistance, which the United Nations framework, which the free trade unions can contribute to the economic and social reconstruction of war-devasted Korea.

Mr. Mungat's assignment was approved by the recent meeting of the ICFTU executive board in Brussels.

INSTITUTE HELD

Santa Barbara, Calif.—The first annual California Labor Press Institute was set for Nov. 25-26 sponsored jointly by the California State Federation of Labor and University of California at Los Angeles.

Union Wants Better Color TV System

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent of AFL News Service

Chicago.—Local 1031 of the AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers shared in a preliminary victory when a panel of 3 federal judges held up the start of color television shows.

On Oct. 10, the Federal Communications Commission approved a system of color TV developed by the Columbia Broadcasting System, and set Nov. 20 for the opening of commercial telecasts.

Radio Corporation of America, supported by several other large manufacturers and broadcasters, sued to hold up the order, Local 1031 intervened on the RCA side.

Joseph M. Jacobs, union attorney, told the court 18,000 members of the union now employed in Chicago on manufacturing of black-and-white TV sets would be jeopardized by premature launching of the CBS system.

The union is not opposed to color television, he said, but wants a system of color telecasting compatible with the present black-and-white system.

There are 9,000,000 TV sets now in use, he said, which would not be able to receive broadcasts under the CBS system unless the owner bought both an adapter and a converter.

The adapter would permit the existing set to receive the color telecasts in black-and-white. The converter would be used to put color into the black-and-white images.

The kind of system the union wants is the kind that existing sets can receive in black-and-white without necessity for any additional equipment.

If the government allows color telecasting which requires 9,000,000 TV owners to buy adapters and converters, he said, the industry would be wrecked. Layoffs would be numerous, and the manufacturers would suffer, said the union lawyer.

Samuel L. Rosenberg, attorney for CBS, said no other system of color television yet perfected is as good as the CBS system, and urged the court to uphold the FCC order.

But Judge J. Earl Major, chief judge of the Court of Appeals, hearing the case with Judges Philip L. Sibley and Walter C. Du Buy, said:

"It is enthinkable that the court hand down a decision which would [illegible] the progress of television."

Mr. Cruikshank, a member of Seafarers' International Union, former organizer for the New Haven, Conn., Central Trades and Labor Council, will sail for Paris on Dec. 5 and is to take up his duties there on Dec. 15.

Rent Curbs and Profits Tax Face 'Lame Duck' Congress

Discrimination Is Silly

Milwaukee, Wis.—President Lester Washburn (left) of the AFL United Automobile, Aircraft and Vehicle Workers Union, and Milton Brandwein, representative of the AFL American Federation of Radio Artists point to one picture in anti-discrimination film prepared by the Auto Workers' visual education department.

Nelson Cruikshank To Replace Shiskin

Washington.—Nelson H. Cruikshank, director AFL Social Insurance Activities, was sworn into office by Federal Security Administrator Oscar Ewing on Nov. 20 to become director of the labor division in Paris.

Mr. Cruikshank will replace Boris Shiskin, AFL chief economist, who will return to his duties here early next year after assisting Mr. Cruikshank in taking up the Paris job.

During Mr. Cruikshank's leave of absence, William Calvin, former secretary AFL Metal Trades Department, will serve as acting director of the Social Insurance Activities department.

Mr. Shiskin, who served as a member of then Secretary of Commerce Averell Harriman's commission which drafted the Economic Cooperation Administration act, has headed the ECA labor division since its establishment in the summer of 1948. He was granted leave from his AFL post to undertake this important job as essential in building up the [illegible]

Agreement Averts Television Strike

New York.—Agreement reached after 16-hour negotiations has ended a strike threat by television performers which would have curtailed live entertainment on a majority of television networks. The 2-year agreement, the first ever obtained by television performers, becomes effective at 1 a.m. today for entertainers who are represented by 5 AFL unions.

The contract gives entertainers larger fees and greater protection in the use of kinescope recordings of live shows.

Under the agreement actors with 3 lines or more on a 15-minute show will get $70 for a 30-minute show $128, with 12 hours rehearsal; and for a 60-minute show $176, with 22 hours rehearsal, plus $5 for each extra hour of rehearsal.

The networks involved were the National Broadcasting Co., Columbia Broadcasting System, American Broadcasting Co., and DuMont Television. The AFL Television Authority represents the entertainers. [illegible] was founded last December. At the same time collective agreement was reached in a dispute between the radio networks and the AFL American Federation of Radio Artists. The agreed-to wage increase ranging from 15 percent to 25 percent for 2,500 performers. It covers all radio networks but the Don Lee chain in Los Angeles and San Francisco, a Mutual Broadcasting Co. affiliate.

RAPS CED

Newark, N. J.—President Louis P. Marciante of the New Jersey State Federation of Labor criticized the Committee for Economic Development for proposing to Congress that instead of any excess profits tax there be enacted a "defense profits" tax on all corporations and a "defense" increase in individual income taxes.

"This," he said, "is a deliberate attempt by business barons to dodge their responsibility by making the small manufacturer and merchant, as well as the wage-earner, pay for the whole defense program."

ASK EMBARGO

Philadelphia.—The AFL Upholsterers International Union general executive board adopted a foreign policy resolution favoring an embargo on supplies which could build up the war potential of communist countries.

The board, which also opposed the seating of communist China in the United Nations, is composed largely of the AFL International Relations Committee with a request for concurrences

JOBS HIT PEAK

Washington.—With employment in the nation's factories increasing to a rise, nonfarm wage and salary employment set a new record of almost 45.8 million in mid-October.

The U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics announced that the gain of 49,000 over mid-September was much smaller, however, than the sharp increases which occurred between July and September, when defense production was expanding, trade and government were partly offset by minor seasonal reductions in contract construction and some of the service industries.

As a result of the rising demand for goods and services by business, consumers and government, more than 1.4 million persons were added to the payrolls of nonfarm establishments from June to October 1950.

Agriculture Gains Under 'Point Four'

Washington.—There's going to be less noise and more color around the U. S. Capitol and other government buildings, if some workers in publicity and office [illegible]

There's nothing to do with the Nov. 7 election results.

It's the sum of a week-long series of lectures on the means of making a number of major improvements in the working environment of the principal buildings on Capitol Hill.

The symposium was arranged by Luther H. Evans, librarian of Congress, and David Lynn, architect of the Capitol, who sought the help of experts to carry out a program approved by Congress. AFL workers approved ventilation and illumination which will take into account such factors as safety, color engineering and sound control.

Samuel H. Hooper, president National Noise Abatement Council, said that noise alone costs American industry and business $4,000,000 a day. He said the noise of the typewriter is the most widespread and bothersome which most people are subject during [illegible]

"Noise whether in the home, office or industry is not an inescapable annoyance, it is in fact a destroying influence that can and should be controlled," he said.

Fisher Brown said that "there is no longer any question about the value of color in industry."

"Thousands of offices and industries have successfully benefited," he said. "For color as a science rather than as an art is a powerful tool which properly used can add efficiency, comfort and security to human life."

The AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is in the front front of international unions which has adopted sound control and color engineering to improve the environment and working conditions in head quarters offices in Washington.

POSTWAR GAINS

New York—Labor's increased emphasis on political action and legislative activity to fight for various types of social insurance paid for by industry, and its elimination of the influence of Communists in the labor movement, are cited as the three most important post-war developments in the American trade union movement, in the new and revised edition of "The Forward March of American Labor," just issued by the League for Industrial Democracy (112 E. 19th St., New York 3, N. Y., 15c) by Theresa Wolfson and Joseph Glaser, illustration by Bernard Seaman.

Less Noise and More Color Planned For Capitol and U. S. Buildings

NAME TOBIN

Washington.—Describing the work of the American Heart Association as an important factor in the national effort, Dr. Paul Dudley White, secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin has agreed to be the honorary chairman of the National Labor Committee for the 1951 Heart Fund.

The $8,000,000 fund-raising drive will take place during the month of February and will be conducted by the Heart Association, its affiliates and its affiliates to support a program of research, public education, professional education and community service—a program designed to help combat the growing brain of heart disease on the health and vitality of the American people.

NO SUPPLEMENT ON NOV. 24

There will be no issue of the AFL News Service Supplement on Friday, Nov. 24, because of the Thanksgiving holiday. The regular issue of the News Service will be published on Tuesday, Nov. 28

New NBC Radio Show Will Dramatize Labor-Industry Democracy in Action

New York—Three stories of successful union-management relationships have been selected for dramatization on "The People Act," a new radio series to be heard over the NBC network on Saturday evenings, 7:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, beginning Dec. 9.

Each episode in this new nationally significant 13-week radio series tells the story of how a group of Americans, using democratic methods, acted together to solve some of the economic and social problems confronting them.

It is produced jointly by the Twentieth Century Fund and the "People 1950" program unit of the National Broadcasting Company. Agreed upon speaker, an authority in his particular field, uses factual findings from the Twentieth Century Fund to point out how the stories apply to other communities and to the nation.

The program employs a new technique which is inspirational, highly dramatic, and full of meaning—according to the on-the-scene voices of the actual people who lived the stories. Each is done in documentary style with NBC's Ben Grauer, the only professional on most of the programs, as commentator, and Elmore McKee, who originated the series' idea, as field reporter.

Each story is a dramatic example of how a labor group and management have cooperated with each other and, in one case with the public also, to deal with critical problems affecting an industry and, in Toledo, the city as well. They aptly demonstrate some of the series' major premises: that the spirit of American democracy is best expressed when a group of people gets together to solve common problems.

Entitled, "Both of Many Minds," the New York City drama industry story to be broadcast on February 3, deals with a unique union activity of AFL. It traces the evolution of sound and mature collective bargaining from the industry's turbulent beginnings early in this century when strikes and sweatshops prevailed, through the tragic Triangle fire in 1911, and the last decade, when, in 1941, the union threatened a strike to force employers, for the good of all concerned, to be good employers, a promise that if labor and management worked together they could make New York City the dress capital of the world.

Every Local Needs Publicity Chairman

Washington.—Local unions, like other organizations, are no stronger than the committees through which they operate. And one of the most important of these committees is that which shapes the local's public relations, or publicity matters.

Local unions of the AFL National Federation of Insurance Agents' Council were thus advised in 2 articles. "Tips for Publicity Chairmen," by Eric Smith in the NFIAC Reporter. Other tips:

1. Each local union should appoint, or elect a public relations chairman.

2. Articles should be prepared in an unbiased factual manner and concern current events.

3. The shorter and briefer the article the wider it is read.

4. Many organization publicity chairmen lose 20 percent of their efforts by failing to "follow up" an advance story with a detailed account of what happened.

Unions Must Mold Public Favor

Washington, Ill.—A union panel has urged that labor unions help mold the community think about labor.

The Illinois Commission appointed to study labor-management problems proposed that an all-labor committee be set up in local communities to study activities in the community.

The second educational conference on "Public Relations for Labor," sponsored by the AFL Labor Council Trades and Labor Council, and conducted by the University of Illinois Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, made 11 recommendations.

(1) Public relations begins at home. The first job of a union leader is one with union members, not only in getting them to understand and participate in their own unions, but in knowing the facts about labor in the labor movement.

(2) A speakers bureau. A union might exchange speakers with other unions and with other groups in the community.

(3) Labor representatives in civic agencies. Labor men should be on the governing boards of community welfare agencies, the school board and [illegible]

Other suggestions included inviting the clergy to union meetings, setting up a booth at the county fair to show union men and women at work, and to pass out union literature; sending the local labor paper to other than union members in the community. It was also suggested that unions select a member to regularly attend meetings of the city council and report back to the membership.

A film strip, "Public Relations for Labor," was shown. It analyzes the why, what and how of a union public relations program. It points out that labor is only one group in the community, by comparing the activities of other groups, unions can get backing for their public relations and other programs, and build a stronger union membership.

The strip defines public relations for labor as "getting your story to the public, understand labor and work with labor to help build a better community."

Panel members were Charles Fox,

Washington.—The "lame duck" session of the 81st Congress faced 2 major pieces of legislation vitally important to all the people—extension of federal rent controls and enactment of excess profits tax.

Although the cocky Sen. Robert A. Taft predicted that the only thing the session could do is adjourn, liberal members of the Congress planned to try to get the senate to deal with these 2 major bread-and-butter issues.

"Lame duck" members—those who lost their bids for reelection on Nov. 7—will throw their weight into the fight for an extension of federal rent controls for a few months at least and a tax on the excessive profits amassed by the nation's military corporations at the expense of the taxpayers and government.

Resuming Nov. 27, the session is expected to run 3 weeks.

Unless rent controls are extended, they will expire on Dec. 31 everywhere except where the local government has asked the Housing Expediter to continue the ceilings.

There appears to be a better chance of getting an extension passed, maybe until sometime early next spring, than of getting an excess profits tax enacted. AFL asked Congress to impose an excess profits tax that would produce up to $6 billion more per year from corporations.

Corporations have asked for a levy to raise $4 billion and made retroactive to last July, and after the Korean war broke out.

The Wall Street Journal reported that figures from reports of 419 industrial companies showed a manufacturer gain of 53.2 percent in net profits in the first quarter of 1950 over the same period of 1949.

Besides the issues of rent controls and excess profits tax, the "lame duck" Congress will face a pending bills providing:

Statehood for Alaska and Hawaii, union shop on the railroads, rescinding Truman's veto of the Kem-McCadden's orders slashing mail services.

Keenan Cautions 'We Can't Relax'

Washington.—Joseph D. Keenan, director AFL Labor's League for Political Education, thanked AFL members, officers and friends for their help in the 1950 election campaign and congratulated them on their many political efforts.

"We have lost some very good friends in both Houses of Congress to be replaced by 5,000 pledged to [illegible] returned," Mr. Keenan said in a statement.

"However, despite these setbacks the returns indicate that the ratio of friends retained in an off-year election is very good.

"The returns also show that we cannot relax, but that we should intensify our efforts to bring a true appreciation of the issues confronting the working people of this country to our members, their families and friends."

$5,000 Families Give Most Contributions

New York—About 82 percent of total individual contributions to charities and welfare funds in 1949 came from families with income below $5,000.

Most trade unionists, constantly being urged to contribute, are among those fall in this category.

In 1949 the United States exceeded $4 billion in both 1948 and 1949 for voluntary welfare and relief, reported by Russell Sage Foundation. These included contributions to churches, educational institutions, community chests, Salvation Army, Red Cross, and agencies and all other organizations where contributions are solicited.

A "statistically average" family with $4,000 income spent $98.80, or nearly 2 percent of income.

While the family was giving a total of about $97 to all voluntary welfare agencies, including the church, it was contributing by way of taxes $120 to the Marshall Plan, chiefly to aid European recovery, and $68 for social security payments to the elderly, aged, dependent children, the blind, and general welfare.

The same statistically average family in 1939 in a given community paid $2,104, from which it gave $30.36, at a rate of less than 1.5 percent, and it was not then making tax contributions for European aid or for social security.

Giving for welfare purposes, even without the obligatory "giving" by way of taxation, has increased 5-fold.

Gifts for welfare purposes, even without the obligatory "giving" by way of taxation, has increased 5-fold.

Increased for the 1949 family. The family spent some $111 for tobacco and $218 for alcoholic beverages. Even the federal excise [illegible] tax bill for national defense, although the war in Korea was still in the future, already amounted to $376.

CARL BENSON NAMED

Toledo, O.—Carl A. Benson, a director of the Toledo Federation of Teachers Local 250, was chosen one of the AFL American Federation of Teachers representatives to the 3rd-Century White House Conference on Children and Youth Dec. 3-7.